

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01

/167 W

----- 123924

R 051651Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1595

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 1885

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD CO

SUBJ: PROPOSED EXPORT TAX ON BANANAS

1. ACCORDING TO BOGOTA REP OF UNITED BRANDS, COLOMBIAN MIN OF AGRICULTURE HERNAN VALLEJO MEJIA ATTENDING PANAMA BANANA EXPORTERS MEETING, ACCOMPANIED BY TWO PRIVATE EXPORTERS, OSCAR VAQUERO AND ALFREDO RIASCO (ONE TIME MIN OF COMMUNICATIONS) AS OBSERVERS. SUPPOSEDLY PANAMANIAN MIN OF ECONOMY VISITED BOGOTA MARCH 1 AND SAW PRES PASTRANA PERSONALLY TO ARRANGE FOR COLOMBIAN ATTENDANCE.

2. UNITED REP REPORTS GOC UNENTHUSED ABOUT EXPORT TAX IDEA AND
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WILL JUST LISTEN IN PANAMA. HE NOTES COLOMBIA GIVES 13 PERCENT

TAX REBATE TO BANANA EXPORTERS, AMONG OTHERS, AND WOULD BE CONTRADICTIONARY TO APPLY EXPORT TAX. HE SAYS COLOMBIAN FOB BANANA PRICE IS \$1.05 PER BOX. ALTHOUGH COLOMBIA CURRENTLY RELATIVELY SMALL EXPORTER, MAINLY TO EUROPE, IT HOPES TO REGAIN SOME OF ITS FORMER PROMINENCE. 1973 EXPORTS WERE ONLY ABOUT 200,000 MT BUT GROWING.

3. HE FURTHER REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO RIASCO, ONE OF TOPICS ON AGENDA IN PANAMA IS EXPROPRIATION OF BANANA HOLDINGS, PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO FOREIGN OWNED HOLDINGS. SINCE BOTH UNITED AND STANDARD ONLY ACT AS AGENTS FOR COLOMBIAN GROWERS, EXPROPRIATION WOULD HAVE NO IMPACT HERE.
WHITE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CUSTOMS DUTIES, FRUIT, MEETING AGENDA, NATIONALIZATION, EXPORTERS, MEETINGS, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BOGOTA01885
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740368/aaaacimh.tel
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
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Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: ETRD, CO, (MEJIA, HERNAN VALLEJO), (VAQUERO, OSCAR), (RIASCO, ALFREDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005